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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

7 DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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9 CHRISTOPHER STEWART,

Case No. 2:22-cv-01757-RFB-BNW

10 Petitioner,

**Scheduling Order**

11 v.

12 CALVIN JOHNSON, et al.,

13 Respondents.  
14

15 This is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 by  
16 Nevada state prisoner Christopher Stewart. On April 6, 2023, this court granted  
17 petitioner's motion for counsel and appointed the Federal Public Defender to represent  
18 petitioner in this action. (ECF No. 5.) On May 5, 2023, Jonathan M. Kirshbaum of the  
19 Federal Public Defender's Office appeared on behalf of petitioner. (ECF No. 9.) The court  
20 now sets a schedule for further proceedings in this action.

21 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that counsel for petitioner meet with petitioner as  
22 soon as reasonably possible, if counsel has not already done so, to: (a) review the  
23 procedures applicable in cases under 28 U.S.C. § 2254; (b) discuss and explore with  
24 petitioner, as fully as possible, the potential grounds for habeas corpus relief in petitioner's  
25 case; and (c) advise petitioner that all possible grounds for habeas corpus relief must be  
26 raised at this time in this action and that the failure to do so will likely result in any omitted  
27 grounds being barred from future review.  
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1           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner has **90 days** from the date of this order  
2 to file and serve on respondents an amended petition for writ of habeas corpus, if any.

3           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that respondents have **45 days** after service of an  
4 amended petition within which to answer, or otherwise respond to, the amended petition.  
5 If petitioner does not file an amended petition, respondents have 45 days from the date  
6 on which the amended petition is due within which to answer, or otherwise respond to,  
7 petitioner's original petition. Any response filed should comply with the remaining  
8 provisions below, which are entered pursuant to Habeas Rule 5.

9           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any procedural defenses raised by respondents  
10 in this case be raised together in a single consolidated motion to dismiss. In other words,  
11 the court does not wish to address any procedural defenses raised herein either in  
12 seriatum fashion in multiple successive motions to dismiss or embedded in the answer.  
13 Procedural defenses omitted from such motion to dismiss will be subject to potential  
14 waiver. Respondents should not file a response in this case that consolidates their  
15 procedural defenses, if any, with their response on the merits, except pursuant to 28  
16 U.S.C. § 2254(b)(2) as to any unexhausted claims clearly lacking merit. If respondents  
17 do seek dismissal of unexhausted claims under § 2254(b)(2): (a) they should do so within  
18 the single motion to dismiss not in the answer; and (b) they should specifically direct their  
19 argument to the standard for dismissal under § 2254(b)(2) set forth in *Cassett v. Stewart*,  
20 406 F.3d 614, 623-24 (9th Cir. 2005). In short, no procedural defenses, including  
21 exhaustion, should be included with the merits in an answer. All procedural defenses,  
22 including exhaustion, instead must be raised by motion to dismiss.

23           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, in any answer filed on the merits, respondents  
24 must specifically cite to and address the applicable state court written decision and state  
25 court record materials, if any, regarding each claim within the response as to that claim.

26           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner has **30 days** after service of the answer  
27 or responsive pleading to file and serve his response.  
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1           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any additional state court record exhibits filed  
2 herein by either petitioner or respondents be filed with a separate index of exhibits  
3 identifying the exhibits by number. The CM/ECF attachments that are filed also must be  
4 identified by the number of the exhibit in the attachment. Each exhibit must be filed as a  
5 separate attachment.

6           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, at this time, the parties send courtesy copies of  
7 **any responsive pleading and all INDICES OF EXHIBITS ONLY** to the Reno Division  
8 of this court. Courtesy copies are to be mailed to the Clerk of Court, 400 S. Virginia St.,  
9 Reno, NV, 89501, and directed to the attention of "Staff Attorney" on the outside of the  
10 mailing address label. **No further courtesy copies are required unless and until**  
11 **requested by the court.**

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13           DATED: 27 June 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'R' and 'B' intertwined.

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15           RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II  
16           UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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